

Application No.: 10/767,029
Amendment dated: June 28, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated: March 28, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-13 and 27-30 are pending in the application. Claims 14-26 are cancelled. Claims 27-30 are allowed. Claims 2-5 are objected to. The specification is objected to by the Examiner. Claims 1, 6-8, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Inaba (U.S. Patent No. 5,844,753). Claims 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Inaba (U.S. Patent No. 5,844,753). Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Office Action allowance of claims 27-30 and the indication that claims 2-5 contain allowable subject matter. *See* Office Action dated 3/28/2006, paragraphs 9 & 10.

With regard to the Office Action's objection to the Title, Applicants submit the embodiments of the present application are directed toward a system for improving electrical connections, specifically referring to the flexible circuit assemblies and HGA flexure cables (*see e.g.*, claim 1). As such, Applicants submit the current Title is proper and the objection should be withdrawn.

Applicants further submit the cited references do not teach, suggest or describe "[a] system for manufacturing a hard disk drive arm comprising: a U-shaped connector ... *including a plurality of generally parallel plates, wherein said parallel plates include at least one bonding pad to electrically couple said relay flexible cable to a head gimbal assembly (HGA) flexure cable*" (*e.g.*, as described in claim 1).

The Office Action asserts that Inaba teaches a U-shaped connector 8 including a plurality of generally parallel plates, citing Figure 1 generally. Applicants disagree.

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With no specific citation from the Office Action as to what it regards as "parallel plates" in the Inaba reference, Applicants will show that the entire description of Figure 1 does not include the description of any element that can be regarded as the parallel plates of the presently claimed invention. *See column 3, lines 19-40.* The first paragraph of the description of Figure 1 states:

An embodiment of the present invention will now be described in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings. FIG. 1 is the conceptual perspective view of the essential section of the magnetic head junction board according to an embodiment of the present invention. As it is seen from the cross-sectional view of FIG. 2 taken on line I--I, a flexible insulating base material 1 which uses an appropriate component such as a polyimide film is formed in approximately T shapes in a spread state. Formed around the end outer surface of the flexible insulating base material 1 is a springy metal layer 2 in a predetermined width which is made of a phosphor bronze plate, stainless plate, or the like which has been formed to have a U-shaped cross section.

The first paragraph of the description of Figure 1 describes a magnetic head junction board with an insulating base material such as a polyimide film and a springy metal layer to be formed to have a U-shaped cross section. There is no mention of parallel plates or any equivalent thereof.

The second paragraph states:

Desired circuit wiring patterns 3 are formed on the other outer surface of the flexible insulating base material 1 by etching the conductive layer made of copper foil or the like. In this embodiment, four circuit wiring patterns 3 are terminated at the locations which correspond to the opposed surfaces of the bent springy metal layer 2 as shown in FIG. 2. FIG. 1 shows a top end and a bottom end of the bent circuit wiring patterns 3.

The second paragraph includes a description of the desired circuit wirings, to be formed around the insulating base material, and may be formed to terminate at locations corresponding to the

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opposed surface a metal layer 2. Again, there is no mention of parallel plates or any equivalent thereof.

In addition, the Office Action cites the "magnetic head junction board 8" as the equivalent of the "U-shaped connector" of embodiments of the present application. Applicants submit it is not. However, it is equally apparent from the illustration of Figure 1 (including the element 8) that this element 8 does not contain a plurality of generally parallel plates, as specifically recited in the embodiment of claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit the Office Action has failed to support a proper §102(b) rejection of claim 1.

Therefore, since each and every limitation is not taught or suggested in the cited references, Applicants submit they are inadequate to support a proper 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection, independent claim 1 should be allowed. Claims 2-13 depend from allowable independent claims and therefore are allowable as well.

It is believed that this Amendment places the application in condition for allowance, and early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

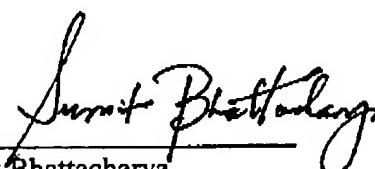
If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayments, to
Deposit Account No. **11-0600**.

Respectfully submitted,

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